

## >>>>>>>>> CONTEXT CLUES

Have you ever come across a word in a story that you didn't know the meaning of?

What do

Turn and talk

## >>>>>>>>> CONTEXT CLUES

There are lots of different types of clues that a reader might find:

Word Parts

Synonym

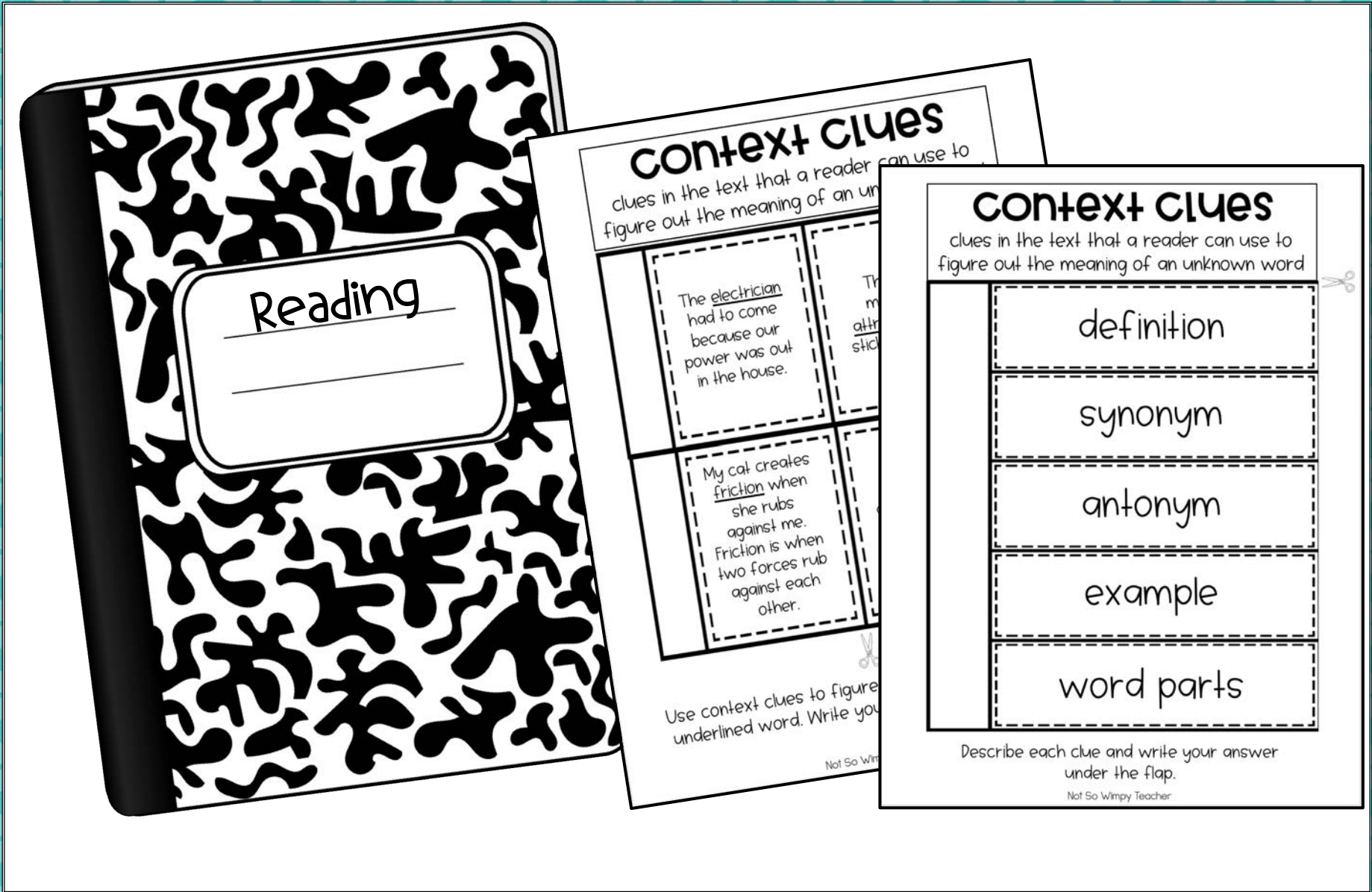
Antonym

## >>>>>>>>> CONTEXT CLUES

Good readers use clues to help them figure out what a word means.

These clues are called **context clues**.

PowerPoint to Introduce the Skill



# 2 Interactive Notebook Activities



# Nonfiction CONTEXT CLUES



## CENTER ONE

Carefully read the passage. Match the word card to the definition card. How did you know you were correct? Figure out your clue. Write your answer and clue in the recording book.



## CENTER TWO

Read the incorrect sentences with an antonym. Then match it with the correct word that makes sense in the sentence. Each word can only be used once. Write your answers in your recording book.



## CENTER THREE

Carefully read the text. What does the underlined word mean? Look for clues to help you. Record the definition in your recording book.



## CENTER FOUR

Read the passage about fireflies in your recording book. Read the question on each card. Find the answer in the text, and use the answer to answer the question using



## CENTER FIVE

- Choose a nonfiction picture book, passage, or article, and carefully read the text. Write the answer to the question on the card in your recording book. Check your work.
- Read a new text, and answer the same question for the second text.



# 5 Centers with a Recording Book

# 1 WORD MATCH

university:

I know this because...

CENTER  
ONE



discovered

because...

FIGHT

UNIVERSITY

DISCOVERED

# 2 CORRECT WORDS

CENTER  
TWO



3

SHINY

QUICKLY

In the morning, the sunrise is bright and dull.

1

The giant glacier in the ocean was made by water melting.

2



# 3 DEFINE THE WORD

## CENTER THREE



1 defrost:

The car was left outside during a snowstorm. The car was frozen, so it had to defrost in order to be driven again.



There are over 11,000 different species of grasshoppers around the world! The different kinds of grasshoppers depend on where they live. Each kind of grasshopper is a bit different. Some make different noises, while others look different.

1



# 4 COLOR ANSWERS

Have you ever been outside in the summertime when it starts to get dark?

## CENTER FOUR



What clue in the text helped you know what the word abdomen meant?  
Underline the answer in **green**.

What does communicate mean?  
Underline the answer in **blue**.

What clue in the text helped you know what the word flickers meant?  
Underline the answer in **red**.

# 50 READING RESPONSE

Text: \_\_\_\_\_

Word #1: \_\_\_\_\_

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

My Clue: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Word #2: \_\_\_\_\_

Definition: \_\_\_\_\_

My Clue: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## CENTER FIVE

a. Choose a nonfiction picture book, passage, or article, and carefully read the text. Write the answer to the question on the card in your recording book. Check your work.

b. Read a new text, and answer the so the second te

Find **two** interesting or unknown words in your text. What clues help you understand the words? What do you think the words mean?



## CHECKING

- I completely answered the question.
- I used evidence from the text to prove my answer.
- I edited my work for spelling and punctuation.





## Mexican Independence

### Context Clues - Nonfiction

Many people think May 5th is Mexico's Independence Day. It is actually September 16th. It is a big celebration, or **fiesta**.

Mexico wanted to **govern** their own country. They wanted to declare their independence from Spain. Now, Mexico celebrates its independence! Mexican Independence Day starts on September 16th. The fiesta lasts until September 16th. Banks, schools, and businesses are closed.

Mexican Independence Day is similar to the 4th of July. Bonfires and fireworks light up the night sky. There are colorful parades. People line up along the streets. They proudly wave the Mexican flag. Many people wear the colors of the Mexican flag, so many people wear these colors. There are also red, green, and white flowers and banners. Each year, there is a speech. This speech shows how much Mexicans love their country.

Mexican Independence Day has a lot of traditions, such as eating special foods. The most popular food is **pozole**. Pozole is soup made of pork and hominy. Another popular food is **menudo**. Menudo is a traditional Mexican beef stew. For dessert, people eat **marzipan**. These foods are eaten throughout the Independence Day celebration.

1. What does the word **fiesta** mean?

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2. What does the word **govern** mean?

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3. What does the word **Pozole** mean?

- a. tradition  
b. fruit punch  
c. soup  
d. Independence Day

NOT SO WIMPY TEACHER

## Amphibians

### Context Clues - Nonfiction

Did you know that animals are sorted into groups based on where they live? Animals that live both on land and in water are called amphibians. Some examples of amphibians are frogs and salamanders. A salamander looks like a lizard. They have moist, or wet, skin. Frogs have a slick skin. They are also found in or near damp environments.

The word amphibian means "double-life." They start out in water. They are born in water with gills, like fish. As they grow, they develop lungs. They go through a process called **metamorphosis**. This is the process of changing from being young to being an adult. A young frog is called a tadpole. As the tadpole grows, it goes through metamorphosis. They lose their tail, grow four legs, and become a frog. However, they must live near water to survive.

Amphibians have a lot of special characteristics that describe them. They cannot control their own body temperature. If it is hot out, they cannot get too much sun or they will get dehydrated. Amphibians cannot get too cold. A bullfrog can lay up to 20,000 eggs at one time!

Some amphibians are brightly colored. The poison dart frog is one example. These colors are a warning for predators not to eat them. Some are poisonous. They can make their predators sick, or even kill them.

1. What does the word **metamorphosis** mean?

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2. What clue helped you know what **metamorphosis** mean?

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3. What does the word **cold-blooded** mean?

- a. always cold  
b. they can't control their body temperature  
c. amphibians  
d. sunbathers

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## History of the Inca

### Context Clues - Nonfiction

Long ago, there was an **empire**, or kingdom, that ruled South America. The people who ruled were called the Inca. It was made up of what is now the countries of Peru, Chile, and Argentina. The capital was a city called Cuzco. The Inca were conquerors. They attacked cities and took their land. The Inca empire was huge. It took up 2,500 miles! They ruled over mountains, deserts, rainforests, and beaches. In 100 years, the Inca empire had over 7 million people!

The Inca grew crops like **maize**, or corn, as well as potatoes and cotton. They raised a variety of animals like ducks, alpacas, and dogs. They often used llamas to help with work. They made clothes from their wool. They even rode them for transportation!

The Inca people had many jobs. There were farmers, builders, and priests. They made helpful tools like pottery and weapons. They also made instruments like flutes and drums. They used the pottery for everyday tasks like cooking and drinking water.

The Inca people built their homes out of stones that they cut by hand. They would fit these stones together like puzzle pieces. They also used adobe, clay that was baked in the sun. They typically built rectangular houses with only one giant room. They also did not have furniture in their houses. They slept on animal skins on the floor.

Some of the Inca empire is still partly standing. The most famous is a city called Machu Picchu. These ruins are found in Peru. The city was built for nobility. These people were royal and important. There were around 1,000 noble citizens living in Machu Picchu.

There were many other Native American civilizations, just like the Inca. We have learned a lot about these cultures. There is still more to learn. They are an important part of history.

1. What does the word **empire** mean?

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2. What does the word **maize** mean?

- a. crops  
b. stones  
c. corn  
d. cotton

3. What clue helped you figure out the meaning of the word **maize**?

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# 3 Passages/Assessments